

4-2016

## Student Affairs Newsletter, April 2016

University of Northern Iowa. Division of Student Affairs.

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### Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa. Division of Student Affairs., "Student Affairs Newsletter, April 2016" (2016).  
*Student Affairs News*. 32.

<https://scholarworks.uni.edu/staffairsnews/32>

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## DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS



Colleagues,

It is hard to believe the end of the semester will be here in a few short weeks. For many of you – perhaps all of you—this is the busiest time of the year. When it seems like you are overwhelmed with all we ask of you, please remember that your hard work this past academic year has made a difference for our students. You have lived the mission of helping students succeed.

It's also a bittersweet time. Students we've known for the last several years are graduating, some colleagues are leaving UNI to pursue new opportunities, and within our Division we look ahead to exciting changes. As we move forward, let me take a moment to thank you for your commitment to students and to their success.

Please take a moment to look through this information and catch up on news from around the Division.

### **Important dates**

#### April

- 25 – P&S Regents Staff Excellence Award Nomination Form due
- 27 – Lavender Graduation, 5 pm; CME
- 29 – Employee Biometric Screening, 7 am to 9:30 am; West Lounge, Towers

#### May

- 2 – 6 Finals Week
- 7 – Commencement
- 30 – Memorial Day

#### October

- 1– Homecoming
- 21–23 Family Weekend

### **Staff updates**

-- Joelle Rummel, Coordinator of Facilities, Sport Clubs and Youth Programs, is leaving the University to pursue a career in the insurance and finance industry. Joelle will be greatly missed by her colleagues in Recreation Services and those she interacted with on

a daily basis. We wish her well in her new career. A national search is under way for her replacement.

-- The Student Health Clinic is pleased to welcome Jennifer Jass, DNP, ARNP, a psychiatric and family nurse practitioner. Jennifer graduated from Allen College with bachelor and master degrees in nursing. She followed the family nurse practitioner track while pursuing her master's degree. Additionally, she holds a doctorate of nursing from Oregon Health and Sciences University and a post-master's certificate from the University of Wisconsin as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. Jennifer is accepting appointments via referrals from the Counseling Center, Student Health Clinic providers, and outside healthcare providers for medication evaluations and management.

-- Allyson Rafanello has recently transitioned roles from Student Assistance & Outreach Coordinator to Assistant Dean of Students. Allyson brings her previous two years of experience within the Dean of Students office to her new position.

-- Brittany Warren, formerly a Disability Specialist, has left UNI to pursue a career at Hawkeye Community College as an Academic Advisor. Brittany will be missed by her peers and is wished all the best in her new position.

-- Lisa Kratz, Director of Maucker Union, has submitted her resignation. Lisa will be leaving to take a position at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. We wish her all the best in her new endeavors.

-- David "Schmiddy" Schmid has accepted a new appointment as Assistant Professor, Tenure Track, in the College of Education - Post Secondary Education Program at UNI. His last day as a live-in Residence Life Coordinator will be Friday, July 8.

### **Recreation Services staff attend conference in Florida**

Chris Denison, Tim Klatt and Cindy Klatt attended the 2016 National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association Conference in Kissimmee, Florida. There were many UNI Recreation Services alumni in attendance who are working on other college/university campuses, many of whom have been recently promoted to assistant, associate or director level positions. Chris Denison was also re-appointed to a two year term on the Nominations and Appointments Committee.

### **Recreation Services staff member earns doctorate degree**

Kristy Leen, Personal Fitness Coordinator in Recreation Services, recently completed her dissertation defense and will be graduating with a Doctorate in Education-Allied Health, Recreation, and Community Services from UNI. Her dissertation title is: CAMPUS RECREATION AND ITS IMPACT ON GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND RETENTION RATES. Congratulations, Kristy, on a job well done!

### **Student Affairs has nominees and winners for Above and Beyond Awards**

During this year's NISG Above and Beyond Awards ceremony, Student Affairs staff had the honor of having multiple nominees and two winners of this prestigious award.

Nominees

Jonathan Cox, Interim Program Manager, Center for Multicultural Education

Pam Creger, Secretary, Student Involvement Center, Maucker Union

Shawna Haislet, Health Promotion Coordinator, Student Wellness Services

Jackie Rangel, Interim Program Coordinator, Center for Multicultural Education

Allyson Rafanello, Assistant Dean of Students

Nick Rafanello, Director of Residence Life

Mark Rowe-Barth, Associate Director, Student Wellness Services

Roxie Tucker, Residence Life Coordinator, Noehren Hall

Ryne Burds, Graduate Assistant, Fraternity & Sorority Life

#### Winners

Jonathan Cox, Interim Program Manager, Center for Multicultural Education

Allyson Rafanello, Assistant Dean of Students

Congratulations to all those nominated. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

#### **Student Affairs employee wins 2016 Student Employee of the Year Award**

Kayla Peterson, student employee for Student Wellness Services and Recreation Services, received the 2016 Student Employee of the Year Award. Kayla has been working for Student Wellness Services as a Peer Health Educator and Intern for one academic year and as a Fitness Instructor for Recreation Services for two academic years. She also worked as an Office Assistant for Recreation Services for one academic year. Kayla serves as a role model for other student employees within both departments, and continually goes above and beyond the required duties of her positions. Her hard work ethic, strong leadership skills, and professional demeanor truly make her an asset to Student Wellness Services and Recreation Services.

#### **Director of Recreation Services wins award**

Christopher Denison, Director of Recreation Services, was awarded the Department of Leisure, Youth and Human Services 2016 Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation. The ceremony will be held on Friday, April 29, and the award will be presented by Dr. Christopher R. Edginton.

#### **Join us at Lavender Graduation**

Join us for the third annual Lavender Graduation ceremony on Wednesday, April 27, at 5 pm in the Center for Multicultural Education. The event celebrates the achievements of the UNI LGBT\* community during the past year as well as recognizes graduating seniors. The event will start with a program and awarding of lavender cords to graduating seniors followed by social time and appetizers. For more information, please contact [lgbt@uni.edu](mailto:lgbt@uni.edu).

This will be the last newsletter of this academic year. Again, let me thank you for a job well done. Hopefully each of you will find some time to relax and recharge over the next few months. And then...get ready to begin it all again...with incoming freshmen and transfer students...and our current students returning to complete their UNI experience.

Jan Hanish

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

**OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS**

118 Gilchrist | University of Northern Iowa | Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0010

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